

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ANKARA 06306 241156Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 INR-07 DHA-05 SSO-00 INRE-00
/027 W

-----031866 241211Z /53

O P 241055Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8617
INFO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS ANKARA 6306

USINFO FOR IOP/M, IBS/PN, IPS/PE, IEU

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT, PINS, ASEC, SHUM, TU, US
SUBJECT: GUNAYDIN SERIES ON ARMENIANS IN AMERICA

1. SENSATIONALIST GUNAYDIN AUGUST 15-22 FEATURED A SERIES OF EIGHT ARTICLES TITLED "WORLD ARMENAIN LEADERS SPEAK", WRITTEN BY ERTUGRUL AKBAY. THE ARTICLES WERE APPARENTLY PROMPTED BY THE KILLINGS OF SIX TURKISH DIPLOMATS IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS AND A DESIRE TO INVESTIGATE THE INVOLVEMENT AND REACTIONS OF ARMENIANS LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES. IN ADDITON TO ALLEGED ARMENAIN TERRORISM, ERTUGRUL'S REPORTS HIGHLIGHT WHAT IS CLAIMED TO BE THE POLITICAL POWER OF ARMENIANS IN AMERICAN AND THE USE OF THEIR INFLUENCE AGAINST TURKEY.
2. FRONT PAGE FORMAT OF GUNAYDIN RELIES HEAVILY ON COLOR, LARGE PICTURES, AND BOLD FACE, SENSATIONAL HEADLINES DESIGNED TO ATTRACT READER ATTENTION. IN FIRST DAYS OF SERIES, THROUGH PICTURES OF AMERICAN ARMENIAN COMMUNITY LEADERS WITH PRESIDENTS CARTER AND FORD AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, GUNAYDIN ATTEMPTED TO SHOW PERVASIVENESS AND EFFECTIVENESS OF ARMENAIN INFLUENCE IN THE USE. IN ADDITION TO EXTRACTS FROM ARMENAIN PUB-UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ANKARA 06306 241156Z

- LICATIONS ON SUBJECT OF TURKISH GENOCIDE CARRIED OUT AGAINST ARMENIANS, THERE ARE MANY PICTURES OF PROPAGANDA DEVICES DESIGNED TO LINK TURKS WITH OPIUM PRODUCTION AS JUSTIFICATION FOR US CUTTING OFF MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY.
3. ARTICLES ARE COMPOSED PRIMARILY OF QUOTES FROM INTERVIEWS ERTUGRUL HAD WITH ARMENIAN LEADERS, INCLUDING:
EDWARD K BOGOSIAN, PUBLISHER OF THE ARMENAIN REPORTER,

TORKOM MANOOGIAN, THE "SPIRITUAL LEADER" OF AMERICAN ARMENIANS, MARJORIE HOUSEPIAN, A DIRECTOR OF BARNARD COLLEGE, DENNIS PAPAZIAN, PROFESSOR OF RUSSIAN HISTORY, SPLKESMAN OF "ALL ARMENIANS", AND PRESIDENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE ARMENIAN LEGISLATURE, AND HARRY SACHAKLIAN, A RETIRED AIR FORCE COLONEL AND TASHNAK PARTY LEADER.

4. BECUASE TURKISH INTEREST IN ARMENIAN GROUPS OUTSIDE TURKEY HAS BEEN RAISED BY RECENT TERRORIST ATTACKS AGAINST TURKISH DIPLOMATS, LEADING QUESTION IN EVERY INTERVIEW CONCERNED REACTION TO THESE ACTS. IN GENERAL, THE KILLING OF DIPLOMATS AND VIOLENT POLITICAL ACTS WERE CONDEMNED BY THOSE INTERVIEWED. MOST POINTED OUT THAT IT IS NOT CERTAIN THAT THE ATTACKS WERE CARRIED OUT BY ARMENIANS. GREEKS, LEFTIST TURKS, AND "NUTS" WERE IDENTIFIED AS EQUALLY PLAUSIBLE POSSIBILITIES, EVEN THOUGH SOME ARMENIAN ORGANIZATIONS HAVE CLAIMED CREDIT. TASHNAK PARTY LEADER SACHAKLIAN SAID THAT WHILE HE DOES NOT APPROVE OF TERRORISM AIMED AT DIPLOMATS, IT IS "NATURAL FOR THOSE WHO ARE FRUSTRATED AND POWERLESS TO UTILIZE WHATEVER FORCE THEY CAN."
5. ERTUGRUL ASKED WHAT KIND OF DEMANDS ARMENIANS WOULD LIKE TO PRESS AGAINST THE GOT. NEARLY EVERY RESPONDENT SAID THAT ARMENIANS WANT A PUBLIC APOLOGY AND A CONFESSION OF GUILT FROM THE GOT FOR THE GENOCIDE CARRIED OUT AGAINST ARMENIANS. DENNIS PAPAZIAN ARGUED THAT ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL LAW, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ANKARA 06306 241156Z

EXCESSES OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE AND MUST TAKE THE BLAME FOR THE GENOCIDE IN THE SAME WAY IT AGREED TO ACCEPT THE FOREIGN DEBT OF THE EMPIRE. THERE WAS DISAGREEMENT OVER THE QUESTION OF ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW ARMENIAN STATE. MARJORIE HOUSEPIAN SAID SHE DOUBTS THAT AMERICAN ARMENIANS WOULD RETURN TO AN ARMENIAN STATE BECAUSE OF THE HIGH STANDARD OF LIVING THEY ENJOY IN THE US. PAPAZIAN CLAIMED THAT HE DOES NOT APPROVE OF VIOLENT ACTIVITIES TO REGAIN ARMENAIN TERRITORY, BUT HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE AN INDEPENDENT ARMENIA. ACCORDING TO SACHAKLIAN, ONE OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE TASHNAK PARTY IS THAT THERE MUST BE A FREE, INDEPENDENT ARMENIA WITH PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY OF SEVRES AS THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATION OF BOUNDARY QUESTIONS.

6. COMPLAINTS WERE MADE ABOUT THE CONDITIONS OF ARMENIANS LIVING IN TURKEY. THE AMERICAN ARMENIAN LEADERS CONDEMNED THE ALLEGED FAILURE OF THE GOT TO PERMIT RESTORATION OF ARMENIAN CHURCHES AND MONUMENTS ON THE ANATOLIAN PLATEAU, AND COMPARED TURKEY UNFAVORABLY WITH SOVIET ARMENIA IN THIS RESPECT. CONCERN WAS EXPRESSED ABOUT LIMITATIONS ON CULTURAL, RELIGIOUS, AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ARMENIANS STILL IN TURKEY.

7. A MAJOR THEME OF THE SERIES OF ARTICLES WAS THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE ARMENIAN COMMUNITY IN THE US. ONE PERSON

CLAIMED THAT THE ARMENIANS HAVE ALLIED THEMSELVES WITH GREEKS
TO PUT PRESSURE ON TURKEY THROUGH THE AMERICAN CONGRESS. DENNIS
PAPZAIAN ALLEGED THAT THE STRENGTH OF THE ARMENIANS IN
CONGRESS IS CONCENTRATED AMONG CONGRESSMEN AND SENATORS
CONCERNED ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES. PAPAZIAN IS QUOTED AS
SAYING THAT AS LONG AS THE TURKS DO NOT ASK FORGIVENESS FOR
GENOCIDE AGAINST THE ARMENIANS, AMERICAN ARMENIANS WILL
USE THE US GOVERNMENT AS A WEAPON AGAINST THE TURKS.
8. COMMENT: IN THE ERTUGRUL SERIES MANY TURKS WILL FIND FRESH
CONFIRMATION OF THEIR SUSPICIONS THAT THE AMERICAN POLITICAL SYSTEM
IS SUBJECT TO MANIPULATION AGAINST THE INTERESTS OF TURKEY, THAT
ARMENIANS ARE IN LEAGUE WITH GREECE TO ISOLATE TURKEY AND
UNDERMINE US-TURKISH RELATIONS, AND THAT AGENTS OF MINORITIES
IN TURKEY HOPE TO USE GREAT POWERS TO FORCE DISMEMBERMENT
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 ANKARA 06306 241156Z

OF TURKISH STATE.
SPIERS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMENIANS, PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL LEADERS, EXILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ANKARA06306
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770305-0830
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770831/aaaaazix.tel
Line Count: 138
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5db5de55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1509437
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GUNAYDIN SERIES ON ARMENIANS IN AMERICA
TAGS: PINT, PINS, ASEC, SHUM, TU, US, GUNAYDIN, (AKBAY, ERTUGRUL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5db5de55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009